

East Elloe
Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER
and the
Chief Sanitary Inspector
for the
Year 1949

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer :

I. M. CULLUM, M.D., B.S. (Lond.), D.P.H., D.C.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

W. B. HITCHINGS, B.Sc. (Hons.), M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

L. H. MOTLEY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk :

Miss J. E. LOND Until 5th Aug., 1949.

D. M. TAYLOR From 12th Sept., 1949.

East Elloe Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Councillor A. WELLS, J.P.

Members :

Councillor R. G. BARWELL.

„ F. BAXTER, Snr. (Until May, 1949).,
„ F. BAXTER. (From May, 1949).
„ F. BOWD, J.P. (Until May, 1949).
„ Rev. C. V. BROWNE-WILKINSON.
„ J. W. COOPER.
„ W. D. CURTIS.
„ J. CUTHBERT.
„ J. DICKINSON. (Until May, 1949).
„ A. B. ENTWISTLE, O.B.E.
„ H. W. FARROW, J.P.
„ S. GARNER.
„ N. A. GRIMWOOD.
„ Mrs. A. H. S. HUNTER.
„ C. J. HARRISSON. (From May, 1949).
„ C. HESKETH.
„ A. G. LENTON, J.P.
„ H. L. NEAVERSON.
„ C. I. PATCHETT.
„ H. PIGGINS.
„ T. H. ROSE.
„ T. W. SELBY.
„ G. H. SNASDELL. (Until May, 1949).
„ A. D. TEMPLE. (From May, 1949).
„ R. WESTON. (From May, 1949).
„ A. WHITE.

To the Chairman and Members of the East Elloe Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith the report for the year 1949, in accordance with Circular 2/50 of the Ministry of Health.

The report deals with a period during which my predecessor, Dr. I. M. Cullum, held office. Despite the limited time available due to the duties of her new appointment Dr. Cullum has done everything possible to acquaint me with the circumstances of the district. I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks.

Dr. Cullum wishes to thank both the Chief and the Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hitchings and Mr. Motley, for their work and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RAYMOND MILLER,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The area of the district is (acres) 84,597

The average population figure estimated by the
Registrar General for the calculation of the
death rate is 22,880

Rateable value (31st March) 1950 £69,664

Sum represented by 1d. rate £273 11s. 3.7d.

The number of inhabited houses according to the rate books is
6,800 and is distributed as follows :

Parish	Total Houses	Est. Pop.	Area in Acres
Fleet	413	1,389	6,837
Gedney	656	2,207	11,679
Gedney Hill	119	400	1,865
Lutton	270	908	3,793
Sutton St. Edmund	163	548	4,670
Sutton St. James	195	656	2,707
Little Sutton	48	161	743
Tydd St. Mary	265	891	4,637
Whaplode	539	1,813	10,688
Whaplode Drove	238	801	
Holbeach	2,025	6,816	22,666
Long Sutton	908	3,057	3,931
Sutton Bridge	865	2,910	6,164
Wingland	96	323	4,217

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Legitimate	185	179	364	Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated civilian resident population is : 17.05
Illegitimate	10	16	26	
Total Live Births	195	195	390	

Still Births

Legitimate	4	3	7	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births is : 17.64
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Total Still Births	4	3	7	

Deaths	131	133	264	Adjusted death rate per 1,000 of esti- mated civilian resi- dent population is 11.08
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Maternal Mortality.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	Nil

Infantile Mortality

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate ...	7	6	13
Illegitimate ...	—	2	2
Totals ...	7	8	15

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	38.46
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	...	35.99
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	...	76.90

				M.	F.	Total	
<u>Deaths from</u>	Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	17	18	35
	Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—	—	—
	Whooping Cough (all ages)	...			—	—	—
	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	.	...		1	1	2

Comments on the Vital Statistics.

					E.E.R.D.C.	England & Wales
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	17.05	16.7
Death Rate	...	...	...	...	11.08	11.7
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year	...			...	38.46	32.0

The death rate for infants under 1 year is higher than that for England and Wales, but it must be emphasised that the numbers involved are so small that undue significance should not be attached to the figures.

The total death rate for the district compares favourably with that for England and Wales but this is only to be expected in a district mainly rural.

**NUMBERS OF DEATHS FROM PARTICULAR CAUSES.
IN EAST ELLOE RURAL DISTRICT IN 1949.**

Cause of Death						Male	Female	Total
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers						—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever						—	—	—
Scarlet fever						—	—	—
Whooping Cough						—	—	—
Diphtheria						—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system						4	2	6
Other forms of tuberculosis						1	—	1
Syphilitic diseases						1	1	2
Influenza						1	1	2
Measles						—	—	—
Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis						1	—	1
Acute infectious encephalitis						—	—	—
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M)								
uterus (F)						2	3	5
Cancer of stomach and duodenum						5	2	7
Cancer of breast						—	1	1
Cancer of all other sites						10	12	22
Diabetes						1	3	4
Intracranial vascular lesions						17	19	36
Heart disease						34	28	62
Other disease of circulatory system						8	1	9
Bronchitis						5	11	16
Pneumonia						3	10	13
Other respiratory diseases						4	2	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum						—	—	—
Diarrhoea under two years						1	1	2
Appendicitis						—	—	—
Other digestive diseases						1	2	3
Nephritis						—	—	—
Puerperal and post-abortionals sepsis						—	—	—
Other maternal causes						—	1	1
Premature birth						2	4	6
Congenital malformations, birth injury, infant diseases						4	—	4
Suicide						4	1	5
Road Traffic accidents						2	2	4
Other violent causes						7	2	9
All other causes						13	24	37
Totals						131	133	264

Social Conditions

There has been little change in the social conditions of the area. The bulk of the workers are employed in agriculture. Potatoes, sugar beet, cereals, tomatoes, flowers, bulbs and fruit provide seasonal employment for the adult female population.

The three Women’s Land Army Hostels have now closed down. There are two Displaced Persons Hostels in the district, and there is a hostel at Sutton Bridge for volunteer workers who engage in seasonal work.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The numbers of confirmed cases of infectious diseases notified during the year are given in the following table.

Disease						No. of Cases.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	38
Whooping Cough	..	...	...	...	...	116
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	.	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	301
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	10
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	..	...	...	...	...	5
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	4
Total	...	...	...	...	...	480

The table below is an analysis of the above diseases in various age groups. The age groups are generally those of the Quarterly Return to the Registrar General.

Disease	Age Group in years								Total
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & over	Not known	
Scarlet Fever	...	...	5	17	9	4	2	1	38
Whooping Cough	8	27	30	47	—	3	—	1	116
Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Measles	...	...	55	176	3	2	1	3	301
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	1	1	—	—	7	1	10
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	...	...	—	—	—	—	5	—	5
Food Poisoning	...	...	—	1	3	—	—	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—	—	2	2	—	4

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation is carried out by the Assistant County Medical Officers and general practitioners. All the antigens used are provided by the County Public Health Department.

Below are given details of immunisations carried out during 1949.

Children under 5 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	260
Children 5-14 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	40
Children given a secondary or reinforcing injection	...	...	...	...	...	216

Inoculation Against Tropical Diseases.

At the request of the Minister of Health, East Elloe, like other Local Authorities, supervises the certificates of inoculation against tropical diseases for persons travelling to certain areas abroad.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance Service :

An efficient ambulance service is provided by the Transport Department of the County Council.

Hospital Services :

Acute surgical cases may be admitted to King's Lynn Hospital.

Fever cases, other than Poliomyelitis, are admitted to Boston Isolation Hospital.

Confinements are conducted in Holbeach Hospital.

Clinics and Treatment Centres :

Infant Welfare centres and Ante-natal clinics are provided by the County Council at Holbeach, Long Sutton and Sutton Bridge.

Laboratory Facilities :

Public Health investigations are carried out at Lincoln and Peterborough Public Health Laboratories. The Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln carries out bacteriological and blood examinations for us. The Public Health Laboratory at Peterborough carries out water, milk and ice cream examinations.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47 :

Several cases which were likely to come within the scope of this legislation were visited during the year. No action was however required to be taken by the Council.

Home Nursing :

A home nursing service is provided by the County Council.

Tuberculosis :

A register of all cases of Tuberculosis is kept by the Health Department. Copies of all notifications of tuberculosis are passed to the County Medical Officer of Health and the cases are visited by one of the Sanitary Inspectors so that details of living conditions, etc., may be obtained. Fumigation work is carried out by the Department.

It has not been necessary to take action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1926.

The total number of cases on the Register is 87. This is an increase of 16 on last year's figure of 71. 27 cases were added to the Register during the year and 11 cases were removed. Of the 11 removals, 7 were due to death, 2 persons left the district and in 2 cases the diagnoses were not confirmed.

The figures for tuberculosis remain constant and constitute a black spot in an otherwise healthy district. The constant supply of new cases is kept up by sputum positive cases which are not isolated, by missed cases and by unsatisfactory housing conditions. Infected milk plays a part and is mainly responsible for surgical tuberculosis. Many of these factors are preventable.

In the following table an analysis is given of the number of new cases, the number of cures and the number of deaths in the various age groups.

Age Period	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non		Pulmonary		Non	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 ...	2	2	1	—	1	1	1	—
25—35 ...	3	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45 ...	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
45—55 ...	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	15	7	1	1	4	2	1	—

Scabies :

The joint scheme commenced in 1943 is still in operation. No cases from East Elloe were treated at the Spalding Treatment Centre during 1949.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply :

I am indebted to Mr. H. Rippin, the Council's Water Engineer for the comprehensive statistical details included in this section of the Report.

There has been no change in the source of supply. It is purchased from Spalding Urban District Council and delivered into an elevated water tank at Weston. From this tank it is pumped throughout the district. Two other elevated tanks at Little Sutton and Whaplode Drove operate as either feed or balancing tanks. A new agreement was affected during the year with Spalding U.D.C. which allows for an increase in the volume of water supplied.

The total water consumption for 1949 was 192.74 million gallons giving a daily average of 528,000 gallons as compared with 67.17 million gallons in 1938 giving a daily average of 184,000 gallons.

A new scheme to improve supplies and meet the ever-increasing demands has been submitted to the Ministry of Health. This provides for 500,000 gallons storage, a new pumping station and for a 12in. diameter trunk main from the Weston Pumping Station to Whaplode via Beggars Bush Lane and Cobgate to duplicate the existing main.

Spalding U.D.C. take frequent and regular samples at source for chemical and bacteriological examinations. Frequent samples are also taken throughout the district by the Sanitary Inspectors and these analyses are satisfactory.

A typical analysis is as follows :

Bacteria per millilitre at 37 deg. C. Nil.

B. Coli. per 100 millilitre Nil.

Chemical analyses indicate that owing to hardness and low free carbonic acid content the water is extremely unlikely to have any plumbo-solvent action.

The following table indicates for each parish the number of dwelling houses and the number of the population supplied from the public water mains either direct to house (including houses where the supply is by means of a stand tap placed in the curtilage of the house) or by means of standpipes fitted to the main and supplying several houses. It also indicates where mains water is available but is not taken and where mains water is not available.

Parish	MEANS OF SUPPLY.				NOT SUPPLIED			
	Direct to Houses.		Standpipes		Water Available		No Water Available	
	Houses	Population	Houses	Population	Houses	Population	Houses	Population
Fleet	351	1181	1	3	54	181	7	24
Gedney	568	1910	9	30	61	206	18	61
Gedney Hill	93	313	14	47	11	37	1	3
Lutton	250	841	1	3	18	61	1	3
Sutton St. Edmund .	143	480	2	7	14	47	4	14
Sutton St. James	159	535	5	17	12	40	19	64
Little Sutton	44	148	—	—	3	10	1	3
Tydd St. Mary	217	730	4	14	24	80	20	67
Whaplode	423	1422	5	17	95	320	16	54
Whaplode Drove	202	680	4	14	27	90	5	17
Holbeach	1800	6058	6	20	199	671	20	67
Long Sutton	769	2589	2	7	131	441	6	20
Sutton Bridge	811	2729	—	—	53	178	1	3
Wingland	63	212	2	7	5	17	26	87
Totals	5,893	19,828	55	186	707	2,379	145	487

The following sections of this report deal, in the main, with the work of the Sanitary Inspectors to whom I am indebted for their compilation.

Drainage and Sewerage :

There has been little change during the year in the drainage and sewerage arrangements and conditions are generally as reported in 1948. There is urgent need for adequate drainage facilities and properly designed sewerage schemes in the townships of Holbeach, Long Sutton and Sutton Bridge.

Sewerage schemes for these three townships were submitted to the Ministry of Health in 1948 and their approval is still awaited.

The need for satisfactory drainage disposal is an inevitable consequence of the provision of a good and plentiful water supply. Such a supply is provided by the Council and has encouraged people throughout the area to provide improved sanitary facilities such as bathrooms, water-lavatories, etc. Unfortunately, in the urban areas in particular, these facilities cannot be enjoyed by all owing to absence of satisfactory drainage disposal facilities. Shops are amongst the premises most affected.

It is pleasing to record that a considerable improvement has taken place in the sanitary arrangements at a number of public houses. These improvements include the installation of washing-up sinks in bars and provision of an adequate number of water lavatories.

Most of the post-war Council housing estates are provided with sewage disposal plants. These are maintained by the Health Department. At times complaints have been made of unpleasant smells from some of these plants but every effort is being made to overcome these troubles.

Public Conveniences :

Satisfactory public conveniences for men and women are provided at Long Sutton, Sutton Bridge and Holbeach.

Public Cleansing :

This service includes the collection of domestic and trade refuse, salvage, the emptying of sanitary pails, privy vaults and cesspools and the disposal of waste materials. The work is carried out by direct labour under the supervision of the Health Department.

The vehicles used are two cesspool emptiers and two refuse freighters with trailers. The trial has been made of a large rear loading moving floor vehicle for refuse collection work. The

results were considered to be satisfactory and an order was placed for the delivery of a similar vehicle. Brief notes are given below on the various branches of the public cleansing work.

(a) **Refuse Collection and Disposal.**—At the beginning of the year a weekly kerbside collection of refuse was being given in the urban parts of Holbeach, Fleet, Gedney, Long Sutton and Sutton Bridge. During the year the service was extended to include the villages of Gedney Church End, Lutton, Gedney Dyke, Holbeach Hurn and Whaplode and those properties lying on the roads between these villages. At present, service is being given to about 3,600 premises each week. The work is carried out with modern side-loading refuse vehicles.

Disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping in pits or on low-lying land. Several small pits were filled during the year but disadvantages have been found in the use of small pits. Their use was unavoidable owing to difficulty in obtaining disposal sites. However during the year two large disposal sites have been found and tipping is now confined to them. One, on private land, is at Long Sutton. Here trenches are excavated, filled with refuse and the excavated earth put on top. In this way a large area of low-lying flooded land is being recovered for arable purposes. The other is a low-lying piece of land at the side of the main road from Holbeach to Whaplode. This site was at one time used for the washing of sheep and is called the Washdyke. Controlled tipping is carried out and, by constant supervision and the taking of all proper precautions it has been possible to carry out refuse tipping within a very short distance of dwellings without nuisance. When completed it is hoped that this site will be for horticultural purposes and will then enhance the approach into Holbeach.

(b) **Salvage Collection and Disposal.** — In the urban areas salvage is collected at the same time as refuse. A large trailer is attached to the refused freighter for this purpose.

In the rural areas a fortnightly kerbside collection of salvage is carried out. Owing to the diversity of the materials collected this is, in effect, a modified form of refuse collection. Revision of the rural collection routes is to be carried out and it is hoped to utilise them to give a complete refuse, as well as salvage, collection service in the rural areas.

From June onwards considerable difficulties were experienced in the disposal of waste paper and cardboard. Collection was however continued and it is felt that this was the right course. During the latter months of the year sales were again found possible and it is hoped that the accumulation of about 40 tons of baled waste paper and cardboard can be disposed of early in 1950.

Details are given below of the weights and values of the salvage sold during 1949.

	tons cwts.			£	s.	d.
Baled paper and cardboard	124	13	to value of	631	13	0
Cartons (est. weight)	4	19	„	52	12	0
Textiles	4	6	„	64	18	0
Sundries	5	2	„	16	15	9
Totals	139	0		765	18	9

In the ten years 1940-1949 the total value of the sales was £8,163.

(c) **Sanitary Pail Collection.** — A weekly sanitary pail collection is made in the urban parts of Holbeach, Long Sutton and Sutton Bridge. About 900 pails are dealt with each week. One of the refuse collection vehicles, which has been fitted with a watertight body, is used for the work. Disposal is by composting in lagoons. As the use of pail closets is still common, collection of the contents is an unfortunate necessity. As in previous years much discussion has taken place regarding the best time for the carrying out of this work. Nuisance will arise whatever the time of day or night and it is suggested that the Council should give the lead and consider the question of providing much of their own property with modern sanitation. This would automatically reduce the nuisance due to collection.

(d) **Cesspol and Vault Emptying.**—This service is given over the whole area and two modern suction machines are used. That it is needed and appreciated, is shown by the fact that, in 1940, when the service was first introduced, the number of cesspools and vaults dealt with was 957, whereas in the year 1949 a total of 4,021 were emptied. Disposal, which is the biggest problem, is by deposit on refuse dumps and agricultural land. This method is not regarded as satisfactory but little else can be done. The provision of sewage disposal schemes would appear to be the only way in which improvements can be affected in this matter.

HOUSING

Progress continues to be made in connection with the development of Council Housing Sites. The position obtaining on the 27th May, 1950, is shown below.

(a) **Permanent Houses.**—Houses erected under all schemes prior to 1945—869.

Post-War Housing Programme. — Houses completed—280. Houses under erection—112. Further houses proposed to be erected—276.

(b) Temporary Bungalows.—69 temporary bungalows of the aluminium type have been erected in the district.

Ex-R.A.F. Hutments.—Ex-R.A.F. Hutments at Sutton Bridge have been converted into 42 dwellings and are managed by the Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

A total of 391 dwellings have been provided by the Council since the war but there is still a very considerable demand for housing accommodation. 38 houses were erected by private enterprise during the year.

It is pleasing to note the improved type of house erected by the Council since the war. Unfortunately, owing to increased building costs and the added amenities, the rents and upkeep of these post-war houses are considerably more than those of the houses previously built by the Council. These high costs do provide a problem requiring consideration and any method which would result in a decrease of rent, etc., should be thoroughly considered.

If a solution is not found, the result may be that the advantages gained by the improvement of housing conditions may be lost by the lowering of the standards of nutrition in order that the rent, etc., may be paid.

Rural Housing Survey :

Owing to the shortage of staff it has not been possible to carry out any work on this survey. Such a survey would prove of great value when it is possible again to carry out slum clearance work.

General :

Much of the properties in the district are in need of repair and attention. However, with the present day high cost of repairs and rents fixed at 1939 levels, owners are finding it increasingly difficult to carry out any substantial repairs and improvements to their property. When repairs are carried out the work is often of a temporary and shoddy character.

The condition of many of the older cottages in the district is unsatisfactory and in ordinary times they would be demolished. It is not possible to put this type of property into a satisfactory condition at a reasonable cost and where complaints are made owners are requested to remedy the grosser defects and make the houses reasonably watertight.

Permission has been given by the Ministry of Health to recommence slum clearance proceedings in connection with six cottages at Station Street, Holbeach. These cottages are in a very defective and dangerous condition and application has been made for the confirmation of a Clearance Order. It is hoped that the necessary Housing Inquiry will be held early in 1950.

INFECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Joint meetings of the local authorities in the Holland County have been held during the year in connection with Clean Food Campaigns. Uniform code of practices and standards for all types of food premises in the County have been agreed upon.

It is hoped to organise as soon as possible a Clean Food Campaign in the East Elloe district but it must be pointed out that the present staff is not sufficient to enable adequate time or supervision to be given to such a campaign.

Lack of main sewerage in the townships of Holbeach, Long Sutton and Sutton Bridge, where the main shopping facilities are to be found, will always be a great barrier to the proper improvement and provision of adequate sanitary arrangements in food shops in townships.

(a) **Milk.** — On the 1st October the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, came into operation transferring the registration of dairy farmers and dairy farms from the local authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Also under the Milk and Dairies Regulation (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, which came into operation at the same time, local authorities are no longer responsible for the licensing and supervision of milk pasteurising plants, the duty having been transferred to the Food and Drugs Authority, i.e., Holland County Council.

Briefly the local authority is now only responsible for the distribution of milk, this includes the registration of distributors, their dairy premises and also for the licensing of dealers in designated milks.

Sampling. — Samples of bottled pasteurised milk sold in the area were taken during the year. The milk is produced by pasteurising establishments outside the district. Where results of analyses were not satisfactory the licensing authorities of the areas in which the milk was produced were informed.

There are no milk pasteurising plants in the district. A producer of heat treated milk has been informed of the necessary work and improvements necessary to make his premises suitable for the production of pasteurised milk but up to present no such improvements have been made.

Ice Cream.

One manufacturer only is producing ice cream in the district. The premises are satisfactory and are fitted with modern equipment complying with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

Numerous visits have been made to premises where ice cream is sold by retail. The desirability of selling wrapped ice cream is always stressed in connection with such premises.

Samples of ice cream have been taken and submitted for examination. As an example, details and results of certain examinations are given below.

Sample No.	Where Produced	Type of Sample	Methylene Blue Test Provisional Grade
4.	E.E.R.D.C.	Loose	2
5.	E.E.R.D.C.	Wrapped	3
6.	Outside Area	Wrapped	4
7.	Outside Area	Loose	4
8.	Outside Area	Loose	3

Meat Inspection.

Very large numbers of cottagers pigs are killed in the winter months but no inspection of such animals is made unless a request is received.

Commercial slaughter of animals for human consumption is not carried out in this district and usually only a limited number of carcasses are inspected, i.e. cottagers pigs, half of which are to be sold to the Ministry of Food or animals slaughtered for emergency reasons.

However, in March an outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease occurred in the Sutton Bridge area and, as a consequence the usual restrictions were placed on the movements of animals by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Mill Green, the main regional slaughterhouse for this district, being outside the control zone, could not be used for the slaughter of animals from the infected area and the Ministry of Food, therefore found it necessary to set up an emergency slaughterhouse. Premises at Long Sutton, used before the war as a private slaughterhouse, were taken over for this purpose.

The resulting meat inspection, often carried out under unsatisfactory conditions, threw a very heavy burden on the Sanitary Inspectors as the work had mainly to be done in the evenings and week-ends, during the period that the Movement Order was in force.

During the period concerned 191 beasts and 664 pigs were slaughtered and inspected.

As a result of such inspection, the following unsound food was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

ARTICLE EXAMINED	DISEASE OR CONDITION FOUND
1 Bullock carcase and all offals	1019 lbs. Generalised Tuberculosis.
1 Heifer carcase and all offals ...	665 lbs. Generalised Tuberculosis.
1 Beast's forequarter	151 lbs. Tuberculosis.
11 Beasts Heads	Tuberculosis.
16 Beasts Lungs	Tuberculosis.
2 Beasts Livers	Tuberculosis.
28 Beasts Livers	Distomatosis (liver flukes).
12 Part Beasts Livers	Distomatosis (liver flukes).
1 Beast's Liver	Cavernous Angioma.
12 Beasts Livers	Septic Abscesses.
4 Beasts Livers	Cirrhosis.
1 Beast's Liver	Peritonitis.
1 Beast's Liver	Necrosis.
3 Beasts Lungs	Distomatosis.
4 Beasts Lungs	Echinococcus Cysts.
1 Beast's Lungs	Septic Abscesses.
1 Beast's Lungs	Emphysema.
9 Beasts Lungs	Pleurisy.
1 Beast's Lungs	Pneumonia.
3 Beasts Heads	Septic Abscesses.
2 Beasts Hearts	Pericarditis.
2 Beasts Thick Skirt	Peritonitis.
1 Beast's Intestine & Mesentery	Johnes Disease.
1 Beast's Intestine & Mesentery	Enteritis.
<hr/>	
13 Pigs Heads & Tongues	Tuberculosis.
2 Pig's Livers	Tuberculosis.
1 Pig's Pluck	Tuberculosis.
2 Pigs Lungs	Tuberculosis.
43 Pigs Lungs	Pneumonia.
15 Pigs Lungs	Congestion.
4 Pigs Lungs	Parasitic Infection.
4 Pigs Lungs	Pleurisy.
4 Pigs Lungs	Echinococcus Cysts.
2 Pigs Livers	Cirrhosis.
6 Pigs Livers	Necrosis.
3 Pigs Plucks	Pleurisy and Adhesions.
2 Pigs Hearts	Endocarditis.
3 Pigs Hearts	Pericarditis.
126 lbs. Pig Fat	Decomposition.
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25 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Beef	Bone taint.
2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Ham	Decomposition.
6 lbs. Ham	Fly Blown.
40lbs. Beef	Bruising.

Other Foodstuffs condemned were :—

236 tins of Canned Foods	Blown and damaged cans.
28 lbs. White Pepper	Contaminated with turpentine.
2 cwt. Sausage Rusk	Contaminated with turpentine.
864 lbs. Self Raising Flour	Contaminated with turpentine.
32 lbs. Dried Prunes	Mould.
4 jars Plums	Mould.
1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Arrowroot Biscuits	Mould and dampness.
1 jar Onions	Decomposition.

Control of Infestation.

(a) **Rodent Control :** A part time rodent operator is employed by the Health Department, his other duties being in connection with salvage work at the Council Depot.

Regular attention was given during the year to all the Council's Refuse Dumps. A certain amount of survey work was carried out in the district and in addition, treatments of domestic and business premises were made whenever requests were received.

(b) **Insect Control :** Regular treatments of the Council's Refuse Dump against flies were carried out during the summer months.

8 houses in the district were treated for bed bug infestations during the year.

Preparations of D.D.T. were used in all insect control work.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1948.

During the year 10 inspections were made of factory premises in the district. Four written notices were served in connection with insufficient or unsuitable sanitary conveniences. There were no prosecutions.

